

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim 1. (cancelled).

Claim 2. (cancelled).

Claim 3. (cancelled).

Claim 4. (cancelled).

Claim 5. (cancelled).

Claim 6. (cancelled).

Claim 7. (cancelled).

Claim 8. (cancelled).

Claim 9. (cancelled).

Claim 10. (cancelled).

Claim 11. (cancelled).

Claim 12. (cancelled).

1           13. (currently amended) A pallet orienting apparatus

2 for orienting planar pallets in a return lane of a live storage

3 system, comprising:

4           pallet receiving means for receiving a plurality of

5 pallets;

6           means for mounting said pallet receiving means for

7 movement thereof between a pallet-receiving position in which a

8 number of pallets oriented in substantially upright planes may be

9     placed in the pallet receiving means to form a row of pallets, and  
10    a pallet-delivery position wherein the pallets are presented as a  
11    stack of pallets with each pallet in a generally horizontal plane;  
12    and a drive for moving the pallet-receiving means between the  
13    pallet-receiving position and the pallet-delivery position  
14    ~~The pallet orienting apparatus defined in claim 9 wherein said~~  
15    ~~drive means is~~ being constructed and operated to place the pallet-  
16    receiving means in its pallet-delivery position by moving a guard  
17    into a position to prevent access to the apparatus.

1           14. (currently amended) The pallet orienting apparatus  
2    defined in claim 13 wherein said drive means is operated to place  
3    the pallet-receiving means in its pallet-delivery position by  
4    moving a guard into a position to permit access to the apparatus.

Claim 15. (cancelled).

Claim 16. (cancelled).

1           17. (currently amended) A pallet orienting apparatus for  
2    orienting planar pallets in a return lane of a live storage system,  
3    comprising:  
4           pallet receiving means for receiving a plurality of  
5    pallets;

6           means for mounting said pallet receiving means for  
7           movement thereof between a pallet-receiving position in which a  
8           number of pallets oriented in substantially upright planes may be  
9           placed in the pallet receiving means to form a row of pallets, and  
10           a pallet-delivery position wherein the pallets are presented as a  
11           stack of pallets with each pallet in a generally horizontal plane;  
12           and the pallet-receiving means being releasably retainable in the  
13           pallet-receiving position by a first latching arrangement and  
14           ~~The pallet orienting apparatus defined in claim 1 15 wherein the~~  
15           ~~pallet-receiving means is releasably retainable in the pallet-~~  
16           ~~receiving position by a second latching arrangement.~~

1           18. (original) The pallet orienting apparatus defined  
2           in claim 17 wherein the second latching arrangement comprises a  
3           latching element provided on the supporting structure and a detent  
4           on the pallet-receiving means.

1           19. (original) The pallet orienting apparatus defined  
2           in claim 18 wherein said pallet-receiving means is releasably  
3           retainable in the pallet-receiving position by a first latching  
4           arrangement and wherein the first and second latching arrangements  
5           each comprise a respective latching element provided on the

6 supporting structure and a common detent provided on the pallet-  
7 receiving means.

Claim 20 (cancelled).

1 21. (currently amended) A pallet orienting apparatus  
2 for orienting planar pallets in a return lane of a live storage  
3 system, comprising:  
4 pallet receiving means for receiving a plurality of  
5 pallets;  
6 means for mounting said pallet receiving means for  
7 movement thereof between a pallet-receiving position in which a  
8 number of pallets oriented in substantially upright planes may be  
9 placed in the pallet receiving means to form a row of pallets, and  
10 a pallet-delivery position wherein the pallets are presented as a  
11 stack of pallets with each pallet in a generally horizontal plane;  
12 and the pallet-receiving means being mounted to a supporting  
13 structure for pivoting movement, and the movement between the  
14 pallet-receiving position and the pallet-delivery position  
15 comprises rotation about a horizontal axis ~~The pallet orienting~~  
16 ~~apparatus defined in claim 3 wherein the position of the pivot axis~~  
17 ~~is being~~ so selected that, when the pallet-receiving means is empty  
18 the pallet receiving means tends to rotate under its self-weight  
19 towards the pallet-receiving position and when the pallet-receiving

20 means is loaded with pallets, the position of the combined center  
21 of gravity of the pallet receiving means and pallets causes the  
22 pallet-receiving means to rotate towards the pallet-delivery  
23 position.

1 22. (original) The pallet orienting apparatus defined  
2 in claim 21 wherein counterbalancing weights or springs are  
3 provided to ensure that the pallet-receiving means rotates to its  
4 respective loading and unloading positions when empty and filled.

Claim 23. (cancelled).

1 24. (original) The pallet orienting apparatus defined  
2 in claim 18 wherein the pallet-receiving means comprises a base  
3 frame for engaging an edge of a pallet in the pallet-receiving  
4 position, and a back frame arranged perpendicular to the base frame  
5 for engaging an undersurface of a pallet in the pallet delivery  
6 position.

1 25. (original) The pallet orienting apparatus defined  
2 in claim 24 wherein the base frame and back frame are formed as an  
3 open framework structure.

1                   26. (original) The pallet orienting apparatus defined  
2 in claim 24 wherein the base frame and back frame are formed as  
3 panels.

1                   27. (original) The pallet orienting apparatus defined  
2 in claim 24 wherein the base frame and back frame are formed as  
3 solid panels.

1                   28. (original) The pallet orienting apparatus defined  
2 in claim 24 wherein the base frame and back frame are formed as a  
3 load-bearing framework with a covering of mesh panels.

Claim 29. cancelled.

Claim 30. cancelled.

Claim 31. cancelled.

Claim 32. cancelled.

Claim 33. cancelled.

Claim 34. cancelled.

1                   35. (original) A pallet live storage system comprising  
2 a supply lane for loaded pallets and a return lane for empty  
3 pallets, wherein the return lane is provided with pallet orienting  
4 apparatus comprising pallet-receiving means movable between a

5 pallet-receiving position in which a number of pallets oriented in  
6 substantially upright planes may be placed in the receiving means  
7 to form a row of pallets, and a pallet-delivery position wherein  
8 the pallets are presented as a stack of pallets with each pallet in  
9 a generally horizontal plane; and ramps are provided in the return  
10 lane, ~~The pallet live storage system defined in claim 32 wherein~~  
11 the ramps are being mounted to the pallet-receiving means and move  
12 moving therewith.

Claim 36, cancelled.

Claim 37, cancelled.

Claim 38, cancelled.

Claim 39, cancelled.

Claim 40, cancelled.

Claim 41, cancelled.